



Interoffice Memo  
Office of Design Policy & Support

**DATE:** 11/18/2019

**FILE:** P.I.# 0006967 CSSTP-0006-00(987)  
Upson County / GDOT District 3 - Thomaston  
Operational Improvement - SR 36/SR 74 @ 3 Locations  
& SR 36 WE/SR 74 Alt/SR 74 WE @ 1 Location - Roundabout

**FROM:**  for Brent Story, State Design Policy Engineer

**TO:** SEE DISTRIBUTION

**SUBJECT:** APPROVED LOCATION & DESIGN REPORT

Attached is the approved Location and Design Report with Notice of Location & Design Approval for the above subject project.

Attachment

Distribution:

Hiral Patel, Director of Engineering  
Joe Carpenter, Director of P3  
Albert Shelby, Director of Program Delivery  
Darryl VanMeter, Assistant Director of P3/State Innovative Delivery Administrator  
Kim Nesbitt, Program Delivery Administrator  
Bobby Hilliard, Program Control Administrator  
Paul Tanner, State Transportation Planning Administrator  
Eric Duff, State Environmental Administrator  
Andrew Heath, State Traffic Engineer  
Angela Robinson, Financial Management Administrator  
Erik Rohde, State Project Review Engineer  
Benny Walden, Statewide Location Bureau Chief  
Andy Casey, State Roadway Design Engineer  
Attn: Shawn Buckley, Design Group Manager  
Michael Presley, District Engineer  
Adam Smith, District Preconstruction Engineer  
Harland Smith, District Planning & Programming Coordinator  
Kraig Collins, Area Manager - D3, A1  
Shanda Caldwell, Project Manager  
BOARD MEMBER - 3rd Congressional District



## Interoffice Memo

**FILE:** P.I. 0006967, Upson County  
SR 36/SR 74 @ 3 LOCS & SR 36 WE/SR 74 ALT/SR 74WE@ 1 LOC

**DATE:** October 10, 2019 *Clinton B. Ford* For

**FROM:** Kimberly W. Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator

**TO:** Office of Design Policy and Support via [ConceptReports@dot.ga.gov](mailto:ConceptReports@dot.ga.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Submittal – Location and Design (L&D) Report

The Office of Program Delivery hereby submits the attached Location and Design (L&D) Report for your review and approval.

If any additional information is needed, please contact Shanda Caldwell at (470) 591-5484.

KWN:CLB:CBF:SGC

Attachments: Preconstruction Status Report, Completed Location & Design approval request

cc: Adam Smith, District 3 Preconstruction Engineer  
Shawn Buckley, District 3 Design Engineer  
Abraham Ghebremeskel, Civil Engineer II



## Location and Design Report

**DATE:** 10/7/2019

**FILE:** P.I.# 0006967  
Upson County / GDOT District 3 - Thomaston  
SR 36/SR 74 @ 3 LOCS & SR 36 WE/SR 74 ALT/SR 74 WE @ 1 LOC

**FROM:** Kimberly Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator (Program Delivery)

**TO:** Brent A. Story, PE, State Design Policy Engineer  
ATTN: Dave Peters, PE, CE Group Leader

**SUBJECT: Request for Location and Design Approval**

**Description and Project Proposal:** The project is located in downtown Thomaston, Georgia on the one-way pair of SR 36 and SR 74. There are no major utilities but there are numerous aerial distribution lines and underground utilities along the project. There are no major structures on the project. SR 36 and SR 74 have two 12 foot lanes with parallel parking on the adjacent shoulders. All the streets have curb and gutter with sidewalks that vary from 4 to 12 feet in width. The one-way pair begins at Green St and ends at Bethel St, consisting of ten intersections. Eight of the ten intersections are signalized. The two intersections that are not signalized are located on Bethel Street. South Bethel St and SR 36/74/Gordon St intersection has four legs. The west leg consists of two one-way eastbound lanes with no stop control. The other three legs are two-way with stop control. The five-leg intersection of SR 36/74/Bethel, SR 36 W/74 W/Main St, and SR 36/Barnesville Hwy have stop control in all directions. The proposed project would improve intersection operations and reduce crash frequency and severity on a segment of SR 36 and SR 74 through downtown Thomaston in Upson County, Georgia. The project is approximately 1 mile long. The project will include the following:

- SR 74 W/SR 36 W/Main St. @ Green St. – Radii improvements
- SR 74/SR 36/Gordon St. @ Green St. – Radii improvements
- SR 74/SR 36/Main St. @ Bethel – Roundabout
- SR 74/SR 36/Gordon St. @ Bethel – Radii improvements and reduction to one eastbound lane

**Concept Approval Date:** October 27, 2015

**Concept Update:** No update.

**Environmental Document:** Project PI 0006967 is state-funded and has a total project cost of less than \$100 million; therefore, the project does not require a GEPA document.

Document Type: None - State Funded

Approval Date: Not applicable



County: Upson

**Public Involvement:** A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held on March 26, 2015 at the GDOT District 3 Office in Thomaston, Georgia. Signs were placed near the proposed intersection improvement locations and notices were published in the local newspaper to inform area residents and business owners of the PIOH. In addition to the signs and ads, flyers were distributed to several businesses within the vicinity of the project and were provided to all the Upson County schools for children to take home to their guardians as a means to reach out to the residential community. Twenty-one people attended the PIOH. Three attendees formally commented during the PIOH, and two comments were received following the PIOH. Among the five comments received, three comments were in support of the proposed project and two comments were conditional.

Beyond the 2015 PIOH, a design change to make approximately one block of South Bethel Street within downtown Thomaston a one-way traveled lane occurred to the project design, and the need for a secondary PIOH was discussed. Due to the project area already having established one-way streets adjacent to South Bethel Street, the Office of Program Delivery vetted the need for a secondary public meeting. Due to the alteration to South Bethel Street being isolated to a short section of South Bethel Street and consistent with the streets within the downtown community surrounding the road, it was determined that a second public meeting was not warranted. Revised plans depicting the revision were provided to the City of Thomaston and voted upon favorably by the mayor and council on April 2, 2019. Documentation regarding this action is attached to the L&D report.

**Consistency with Approved Planning:** The design description as presented herein and submitted for approval is consistent with the approved Concept Report.

**Recommendations:** Recommend that the location and design for the project be approved and that the attached Notice be approved for advertising.

Concur: *Hind Patel*

GDOT Director of Engineering

Approve: *Mr. M. G. Lusk*

GDOT Chief Engineer

*11/14/19*  
Date

DATE OF LOCATION AND DESIGN APPROVAL:

*November 18, 2019* *(JRP)*(To be entered by State Conceptual Design  
Group Manager)

## Attachments:

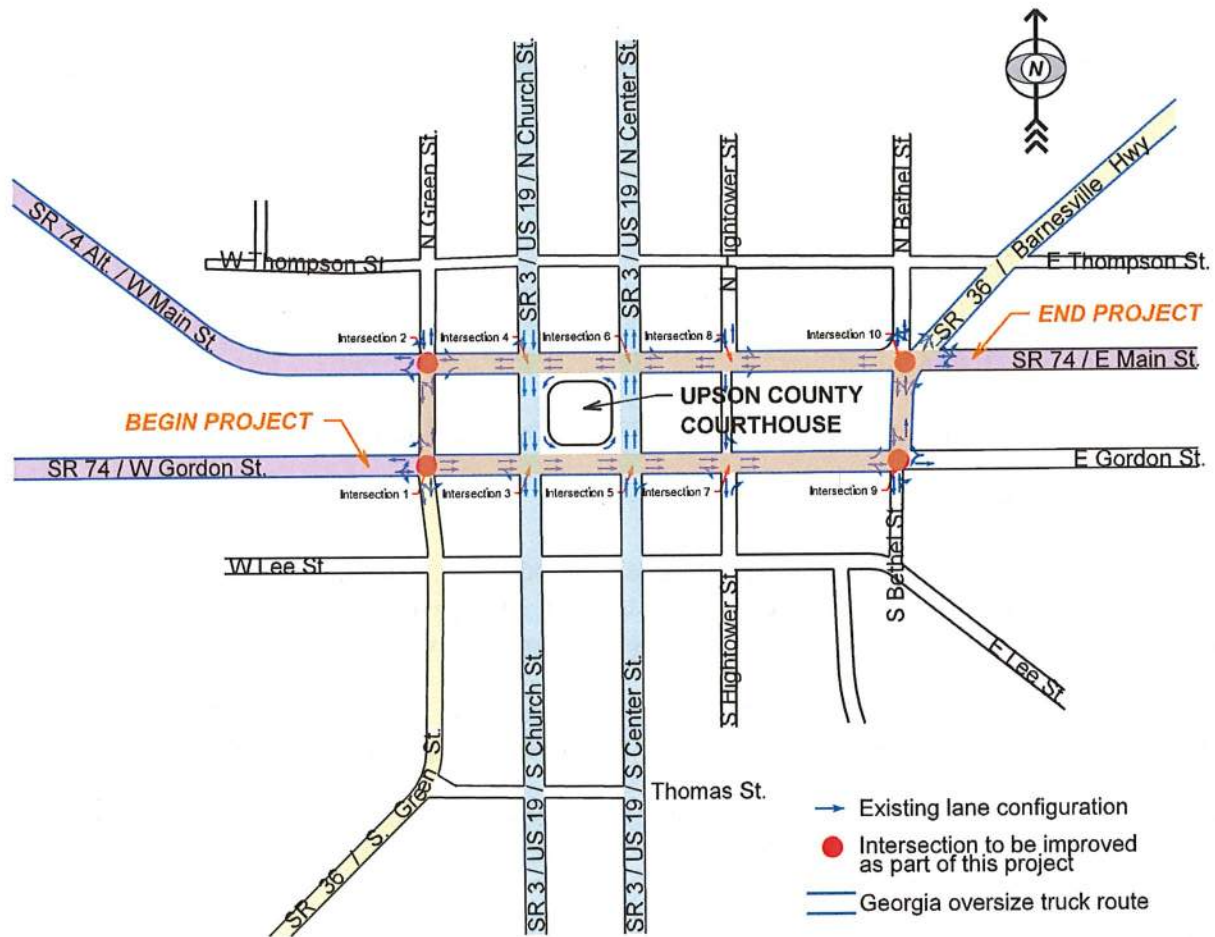
- Sketch Map
- Letter of Acceptance for Design Change from City of Thomaston
- PIOH package
- Comments received from PIOH
- Response Letter to Comments
- Communication Record
- Notice of Location and Design Approval

## PROJECT LOCATION MAP



SR 36/SR 74 @ 3 LOCS & SR 36 WE/SR 74 ALT/SR 74 WE @ 1 LOC

**INTERSECTION LOCATION MAP  
DOWNTOWN THOMASTON**



**SR 36/SR 74 @ 3 LOCS & SR 36 WE/SR 74 ALT/SR 74 WE @ 1 LOC**

# City of Thomaston

## Office of City Manager

106 East Lee Street

P. O. Box 672

Thomaston, Georgia 30286

706-647-4242

Telephone

April 15, 2019

706-646-2653

Telefax

Georgia Department of Transportation  
Shandra Caldwell, Project Manager  
115 Transportation Blvd.  
Thomaston, GA 30286

RE: Reorientation of South Bethel Street from Gordon Street to SR 74

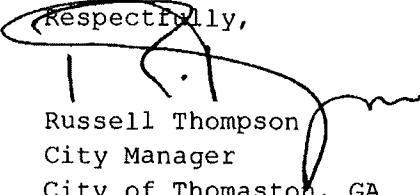
Dear Mrs. Caldwell:

The Mayor and Council voted in session on April 2, 2019, to support the roundabout concept as presented, including the proposal to reconfigure South Bethel Street as a one-way between Gordon Street and SR 74.

A copy of the action is on file as part of the regular minutes from the meeting. A copy may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk.

Please let me know if there is any additional information that I may provide concerning this project. If there is a change to the design, please contact our office.

Respectfully,



Russell Thompson  
City Manager  
City of Thomaston, GA

*Taking The Time To Serve*



March 26, 2015

Thank you for attending the Public Information Open House for the proposed improvement of four intersections along the State Route (SR) 74 one way pair system in Thomaston, Georgia, PI Number 0006967. Our goal is two-fold: 1) to provide you with information on the proposed project and 2) to provide an opportunity for you to give us your comments on the proposed project. In this handout package, you will find a description of the project, a location map, and a comment card.

As you enter the room, please take a look at the project display. Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) representatives, wearing nametags, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. There will be no formal presentation.

We hope you will take the opportunity to tell Georgia DOT what you think. Listed below are several ways to comment on the project. Your comments are important to us and, should you provide comments by one of the methods noted below, we will respond to you in writing usually within the next 45 days. All comments will become part of the project's official record.

While you are attending the open house, you can **provide your comments today** by filling out the comment card provided with this handout and dropping it in the comment box, or you may choose to provide your verbal comments to the court reporter who will transcribe your comments.

You can also **provide your comments by Monday, April 06, 2015** by using either of the following methods:

- Online at [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov).
  1. At the bottom of the page, click *Projects* located in the banner;
  2. Click *Public Outreach*;
  3. From the menu, select *Upson County* and click *Go*;
  4. Then click *SR 74 Intersection Improvements*;
  5. Lastly, click *Comment* and follow the instructions to leave your comments.
- Mail in your comment card to Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308.

The project displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after this open house at the *Public Outreach* at [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov), described above. Hardcopies will also be available at the Georgia DOT District 3 Office located at 115 Transportation Boulevard, Thomaston, Georgia. Following the ten-day public comment period, a copy of all comments received will be available by request at the Atlanta address listed above.

Again, thank you for attending this open house. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager, Sue Anne Decker, at (706) 646-7559 or the environmental analyst, Paul Alimia, at (404) 631-1353 of the Office of Environmental Services.

Sincerely,

Hiral Patel, P.E.  
State Environmental Administrator  
Georgia Department of Transportation



**Why We Are Here (Draft Need and Purpose Statement):**

The proposed project was identified to improve safety and traffic congestion in downtown Thomaston, Georgia. Several state routes pass through downtown Thomaston including SR 74, SR 36, and SR 3/US 19. The state routes are heavily utilized by trucks to connect to local facilities and interstates. To ease traffic congestion associated with the state routes and truck turning movements, the proposed project was identified.

**Project Description:**

The proposed project would include improving four intersections along the SR 74 one-way pair system in Thomaston, Upson County, Georgia. Proposed activities include improvements at the intersections of State Route (SR) 74/West Main Street and South Green Street; SR 74/West Gordon Street and South Green Street; SR 74/East Gordon Street and South Bethel Street; and SR 74/East Main Street, North Bethel Street, South Bethel Street and SR 36/Barnesville Highway.

1. Improvements to the intersection at SR 74/West Gordon Street and South Green Street (Intersection 1 on the figure) would improve the turning radius for right-turn movements from South Green Street northbound to SR 74/West Gordon Street eastbound.
2. Improvements to the intersection at SR 74/West Main Street and South Green Street (Intersection 2 on the figure) would improve the turning radius for left-turn movements from SR 74/West Main Street westbound to South Green Street southbound.
3. Improvements to the intersection at SR 74/East Gordon Street and South Bethel Street (Intersection 9 on the figure) would improve the turning radius for left-turn movements from SR 74/East Gordon Street eastbound to South Bethel Street northbound. The existing left-turn lane on SR 74/East Gordon Street would be eliminated and traffic along SR 74/East Gordon Street would be consolidated into one lane that allows left, right, or straight lane movements. The additional pavement width provided by the lane consolidation will aid in the turning radius improvements.
4. A 4-legged roundabout is proposed for the five-way intersection of SR 74/East Main Street, North Bethel Street, South Bethel Street, and SR 36/Barnesville Highway (Intersection 10 on the figure). As part of the roundabout construction, East Thompson Street would be realigned to enter SR 36/Barnesville Highway prior to accessing the roundabout. The realignment would eliminate access from North Bethel Street to East Main Street. North Bethel Street traffic would be diverted onto East Thompson Street eastbound to access the roundabout or westbound to continue to downtown Thomaston.

The proposed project would conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Sidewalks and curb and gutter would be added along improved sections. The project length is approximately 0.33 mile. The existing ROW for the project roads are as follows: SR 74/West Main Street 55 to 60 feet; South Green Street 40 feet; SR 74/West Gordon Street 50 feet; SR 74 East Gordon Street 57 feet; South Bethel Street 37 to 75 feet; SR 74 East Main Street 60 feet; North Bethel Street 32 to 60 feet, and SR 36/Barnesville Highway 43 to 44 feet. Right-of-way (ROW) and easement would be required in order to construct the project but the amount needed is undetermined at this time.

Project Location Map:



## Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☐ **For**      ☐ **Against**      ☐ **Conditional**      ☐ **Uncommitted**

General Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this Open House? (check)    ☐ **Radio**    ☐ **Newspaper**    ☐ **Signs**    ☐ **Word of Mouth**

☐ **Other** \_\_\_\_\_

Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend?      ☐ **Yes**      ☐ **No**

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?      ☐ **Yes**      ☐ **No**

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you.

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel?      ☐ **Yes**      ☐ **No**

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?      ☐ **Yes**      ☐ **No**

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., State Environmental Administrator  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

## Miolen von Oldenburg, Amanda M

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**From:** Van, Audrey K  
**Sent:** Friday, March 27, 2015 9:03 AM  
**To:** 'Alimia, Philip P.'  
**Cc:** Dyson, Wendy E  
**Subject:** PI 0006967, Upson PIOH synopsis

\*\*\*\*\*

**Complete this on the day after the Open House. Try to email the recipients by 10am. Save the sent email in Project Documents.**

STEP 1: Enter the PI# and county where appropriate in the subject line—ensure the type of Open House is shown correctly.

STEP 2: Fill in the appropriate information in the table below.

STEP 3: If you are a consultant preparer, email this to the assigned GDOT NEPA Analyst for review and transmittal (leave Step 4 & 5 for the GDOT NEPA Analyst).

STEP 4: Cut and paste the list of recipients below for the "To:" line; Further add the PM, the District Engineer, the District Communications Officer, the consult preparer (if applicable);

Recipient List:

[rmcmurry@dot.ga.gov](mailto:rmcmurry@dot.ga.gov), [gbowman@dot.ga.gov](mailto:gbowman@dot.ga.gov), [hpatel@dot.ga.gov](mailto:hpatel@dot.ga.gov), [eduff@dot.ga.gov](mailto:eduff@dot.ga.gov)

(The above include in order: Chief Engineer, Engineering Division Director, OES Office Head, NEPA-side Assistant OES Office Head)

STEP 5: DELETE THESE INSTRUCTIONS!

\*\*\*\*\*

Hi everyone,

Below please find below a brief synopsis of last night's Open House. Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.

Brief Project Description	Improvements to Four Intersections on SR 74 in Thomaston, Georgia						
Date of Open House	3/26/15		End of Comment Period		4/6/15		
Number in Attendance	21						
Officials in Attendance (list name and title)	Hayes Arnold (Mayor of Thomaston), Dan Kilgore (Upson County Sheriff), Rusty Blackston (Upson County Board of Commissioners), JD Stallings (Councilman for City of Thomaston)						
Comment Breakdown (for comments provided at the Open House)							
For	3	Conditional	0	Uncommitted	0	Against	0
Major concerns:	Closing Bethel Street access to the roundabout may not be the right design.						
Prepared by (include firm's name if applicable):	Audrey Van, Atkins						

**Audrey Van**  
Senior Planner, NEPA

**ATKINS**

1600 Riveredge Parkway, NW, Suite 600, Atlanta, GA 30328 | Direct: +1 (678) 247 2473

Email: [audrey.van@atkinsglobal.com](mailto:audrey.van@atkinsglobal.com) | Web: [www.atkinsglobal.com/northamerica](http://www.atkinsglobal.com/northamerica) | [www.atkinsglobal.com](http://www.atkinsglobal.com)



## Georgia Department of Transportation | Public Information Open House Handout

PI#(s): 0006967, County: Upson

## Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name Doug Carrier #Address 305 S. Hightower StThomas, GA 30286Email Address dcarrier@upsoncountyga.org

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☒ For☐ Against☐ Conditional☐ Uncommitted

General Comments

Too many drivers are confused at the 5 way - who goes when the roundabout will - after a period of adjustment - upon movement the driver is confused. It's not sure closing Bethel Street is the right move, but time will tell.

How did you hear about this Open House? (check)

☒ Radio☒ Newspaper☐ Signs☒ Word of Mouth☐ Other

Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend?

☒ Yes☐ No

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

☒ Yes☐ No

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you.

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel?

☒ Yes☐ No

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

☒ Yes☐ No

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

Maximize use of the animation. It's excellent but doesn't illustrate all of the improvements / movements.

Mail to:

Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., State Environmental Administrator  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
600 West Peachtree Street, NW - 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Georgia Department of Transportation | Public Information Open House Handout  
 PI#(s): 0006967, County: Upson

### Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name NANCY LOWRY

Address 219 EAST GORDON ST.  
THOMASTON, GA

Email Address nancylowry@hotmail.com

southerncrestrealty@gmail.com

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Conditional ☐ Uncommitted

General Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this Open House? (check) ☒ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Signs ☐ Word of Mouth

☒ Other SueAnne Decker

Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you.

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Mail to:

Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., State Environmental Administrator  
 Georgia Department of Transportation  
 600 West Peachtree Street, NW - 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30308

## Georgia Department of Transportation | Public Information Open House Handout

PI#(s): 0006967, County: Upson

## Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name Charlotte WeberAddress 121 Georgia Avenue  
Barnesville, GA 30204Email Address charweber2@gmail.com

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Conditional ☐ UncommittedGeneral Comments This is a much needed improvement.How did you hear about this Open House? (check) ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Signs ☒ Word of Mouth  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend? ☒ Yes ☐ NoIf no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.  
\_\_\_\_\_Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? ☒ Yes ☐ NoIf no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you.  
\_\_\_\_\_Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel? ☒ Yes ☐ NoDo you understand the project after attending this meeting? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

Good Job!

## Mail to:

Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., State Environmental Administrator  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
600 West Peachtree Street, NW - 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308



Georgia Department of Transportation | Public Information Open House Handout  
 PI#(s): 0006967, County: Upson

### Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name Kent Romo

Address \_\_\_\_\_

SEE ATTACHED

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☒ For

☐ Against

☐ Conditional

☐ Uncommitted

General Comments \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED.

How did you hear about this Open House? (check) ☒ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Signs ☐ Word of Mouth

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you.

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mail to:

Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., State Environmental Administrator  
 Georgia Department of Transportation  
 600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30308



Keith B. Rohling, P.E., PTOE  
917 Crystal Drive  
Thomaston, Georgia 30286  
[kbrohling@charter.net](mailto:kbrohling@charter.net)

March 27, 2015

Ms. Heral Patel, P.E., State Environmental Administrator  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
600 W. Peachtree St, NW – 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

RE: Public Information Open House; PI# 0006967, Upson County

I attended the meeting last evening for the referenced project. I tried to send my comments through the website, however it told me that it could not accept due to the number of characters. Therefore, I offer the following:

I am concerned that the traffic modeling does not cover the complete signal system that feeds the roundabout. The model being displayed was showing random arrivals into the system. This can not be the case because of the signal system and how it releases traffic. This would cause problems with the left lane closure approaching the intersection on Gordon St. at Bethel St. A left lane closure is the least preferable since the driver is having to look over their right shoulder to merge. My experience has been that this type of operation will effectively close down the left eastbound lane at least through the courthouse square section. If a traffic model was conducted on the entire system including a 0.5% growth rate for the 20 year time the operation will likely fail.

With the high volume of trucks traveling SR 74 from Macon to Lagrange, special attention should be used to address the design for the right turning trucks with the splitter islands in the middle of the approach.

Another area of concern is the close proximity of the Thompson St. at SR 36 intersection to the roundabout. A better design may be to shift the roundabout to the northeast along the SR 36 alignment and include Thompson St or Bethel St into the roundabout. Thompson would be better operationally, however, my observations would lead me to think Bethel St. carries more traffic.

Thanks for accepting my comments,



Keith B. Rohling, P.E., PTOE

## Public Outreach

### Comments

[comments](#)[summaries](#)[projects](#)[open houses](#)[e-mail](#)[categories](#)[reports](#)[users](#)[documents](#)[help](#)[cheat sheets](#)[review](#)[add](#)[update](#)[delete](#)

### CommentReview

Comments Pending Responses for Project ID: 0006967  
Open House Date: 03/26/2015

First Name: Julian Last Name: Bethel

E-Mail: julian@bethelco.com

Address: 211 North Bethel Street

City: Thomaston State: GA Zip: 30286

Category: Planning

Comment: After deciding to reduce the 5-way to a 4-way intersection, the use of a round-about seems counter productive to traffic flow. After simply blocking Bethel Street access on the north side, a better solution would be to open-up all the other points of access and egress to a 4-way intersection rather than requiring a circuit about the round-a-bout (The round-about is the ideal solution to a different problem.) The need utility of a sidewalk that prematurely terminates traffic at the middle of a block is also questionable. What purpose does half a block serve for vehicles that would not better be served by the complete block? What benefit is gained by vehicles using half a block to a dead end that would not better be served by turning the intersection at Thompson and Bethel into a 3-way.

[▶ return](#)[▶ edit](#)[▶ respond now](#)[▶ forward](#)

First Name	Last Name	Address 1	City	State	Zip
Doug	Currier	305 S. Hightower Street	Thomaston	GA	30286
Nancy	Lowry	219 East Gordon Street	Thomaston	GA	30286
Charlotte	Weber	121 Georgia Avenue	Barnesville	GA	30204
Keith	Rohling	917 Crystal Drive	Thomaston	GA	30286
Julian	Bethel	211 North Bethel Street	Thomaston	GA	30286



May 5, 2015

Julian Bethel  
211 North Bethel Street  
Thomaston, GA 30286

Re: Responses to Open House Comments for PI#: 0006967, Upson County, State Route (SR) 74 One-Way Pair in Thomaston, Project Number: CSSTP-0006-00(967)

Dear Julian Bethel:

Thank you for your comments concerning the proposed project referenced above. We appreciate your participation and all of the input that was received as a result of the March 26, 2015 Public Information Open House. Every written comment received and verbal comment given to the court reporter will be made part of the project's official record.

A total of 21 people attended the open house. Of the five respondents who formally commented, four were in support of the project, none were opposed, none were uncommitted, and one expressed conditional support.

The attendees of the open house and those persons sending in comments within the comment period raised the following questions and concerns. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has prepared this one response letter that addresses all comments received so that everyone can be aware of the concerns raised and the responses given. Please find the comments summarized below (in *italics*) followed by our response.

- *"Too many drivers are confused at the 5-way regarding who goes when. The roundabout will, after a period of time, improve movement through the intersection."*

Thank you for your comment. The purpose of the proposed roundabout is to facilitate traffic flow through the existing five-way intersection.

- *"I'm not sure closing Bethel Street is the right move."* (in reference to closing southbound Bethel Street access to Main Street)

The options of either closing Bethel Street or incorporating it into a five-leg roundabout were considered and analyzed. Both operated efficiently; however the studies performed by GDOT show that closing Bethel Street, rather than incorporating Bethel Street into the roundabout, would reduce impacts to the businesses near the intersection as the impacts would be mainly limited to the vacant parcels nearby. This will also allow most of the roundabout to be constructed alongside the existing road without road closure, substantially reducing construction duration and cost and greatly improving work zone safety.

- *"This is a much needed improvement."*

Thank you for your comment and for taking the time to attend the Public Information Open House.

- *"I'm concerned that the traffic modeling does not cover the complete signal system that feeds the roundabout. The model being displayed showed random arrivals into the system. This cannot be the case because of the signal system and how it releases traffic...If a traffic model was conducted on the entire*



*system including a 0.5% growth rate for the 20 year time the operation will likely fail.*" (in reference to the traffic visualization of the proposed roundabout shown at the Public Information Open House)

One of the models displayed during the Public Information Open House was purely an artistic rendering. Although the second model showed the traffic, it did not include the complete signal system. These models were for demonstration purposes. The roundabout and the complete signal system have been modeled and do perform acceptably as does the left lane closure on Gordon Street approaching the intersection of Gordon Street at Bethel Street.

- *"A left lane closure is the least preferable since the driver is having to look over their right shoulder to merge."* (in reference to the intersection of South Bethel and Gordon Street)

The traffic movement of a left lane merging right is repeated at each intersection at the courthouse square, where left turning vehicles are yielding to through movements and then merging right. Given the low speed of the corridor and the pattern that currently exists around the courthouse square, GDOT believes that a left lane closure and a right merge between Hightower Street and Bethel Street on Gordon Street corresponds well with the existing geometry and lane configurations.

Various alternatives were examined including the option of displacing the house on the corner of Bethel Street and Gordon Street. This would have provided enough space for truck left turning movements onto Bethel Street without closing any lanes on Gordon Street. However, this property is a contributing feature of a National Register-eligible historic district; therefore, this option is not viable per Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act as a prudent and feasible alternative to displacing this structure exists (i.e. the improvement shown at the public meeting).

The option of a left merge between Hightower Street and Bethel Street was also considered. However, realignment would be needed to provide space for truck left turning movements onto Bethel Street and inadequate space exists between Hightower Street and Bethel Street for these operations to be performed safely.

Another option considered was the closure of a lane at the southeast corner of the courthouse square (Gordon Street and Center Street). This would require closing the existing left turn lane and reconfiguring the existing through lanes to a left turn and a through left turn. When analyzed for operational efficiency, this configuration operated as if the lane drop occurred further back at Green Street due to people moving over earlier between Green Street and Center Street. Because of this, inadequate storage was provided between Green Street and Center Street and there were larger queues and delays at Green Street. GDOT also believes that altering the existing pattern around the courthouse square at just the one corner is undesirable.

- *"With the high volume of trucks traveling SR 74 from Macon to LaGrange, special attention should be used to address the design for the right turning trucks with the splitter islands in the middle of the approach."*

Truck accommodations will be integrated into the roundabout design. The installation of an outer truck apron to accommodate the turning radius of trucks turning right from SR 74 onto SR 36/ Barnesville Highway is already being considered.

- *Another area of concern is the close proximity of Thompson St. at SR 36 intersection to the roundabout. A better design may be to shift the roundabout to the northeast along the SR 36 alignment and include*

*Thompson St. or Bethel St. into the roundabout. Thompson St. would be better operationally, however, my observations would lead me to think Bethel St. carries more traffic."*

A 5-leg roundabout, in which Bethel Street is incorporated was modeled and examined alongside the 4-leg option shown at the Public Information Open House. It was found that the 4-leg configuration operates well below capacity in the design year (2039), while simplifying the operations of the roundabout by eliminating specific conflict points present in the 5-leg configuration. It also shifts property impacts away from the Dollar General to vacant parcels and enables a substantial portion of the roundabout to be constructed off alignment improving work zone safety and greatly reducing construction duration and costs. The location of the roundabout displayed during the Public Information Open House also maintains the existing alignment of SR 74 with minimal realignment needed.

The proximity of the Thompson Street at SR 36/Barnesville Highway intersection to the roundabout will be examined further. The option of moving it further away, along SR 36/Barnesville Highway is already being considered.

- *"After deciding to reduce the 5-way to a 4-way intersection....simply blocking Bethel Street access on the north side, a better solution would be to open-up all the other points of access and egress to a 4-way intersection rather than requiring a circuit about the roundabout."*

The roundabout analysis suggests that a roundabout is the most appropriate solution for improving traffic flow at this intersection and will operate well below capacity in design year 2039. Roundabouts can be expected to always offer better operational performance for vehicles than all-way stop controlled intersections given the same traffic conditions. Eliminating the Bethel Street approach results in fewer pedestrian crossings which increases pedestrian safety at the intersection as well.

- *"The need utility of a sidewalk that prematurely terminates traffic at the middle block is also questionable. What benefit is gained by vehicles using half a block to a dead end that would not be better served by turning the intersection a Thompson and Bethel into a 3-way?" (in reference to Bethel Street)*

At the proposed Bethel Street dead end, a driveway entrance to Dollar General is located on Bethel Street. To provide the same number of access points to Dollar General, Bethel Street would remain open to the Dollar General driveway. Although vehicular traffic is terminated at the dead end of Bethel Street, pedestrian traffic may wish to continue through the intersection to access downtown Thomaston. The proposed sidewalk layout provides a safe path for pedestrians to do so as it reduces the number of crossing required.

Again, thank you for your comments. Should you have further questions, comments or concerns, please call the project manager, Achor Njoku, at (404) 631-1550 or the environmental analyst, Paul Alimia, at (404) 631-1353.

Sincerely,



Hiral Patel, P.E.  
State Environmental Administrator

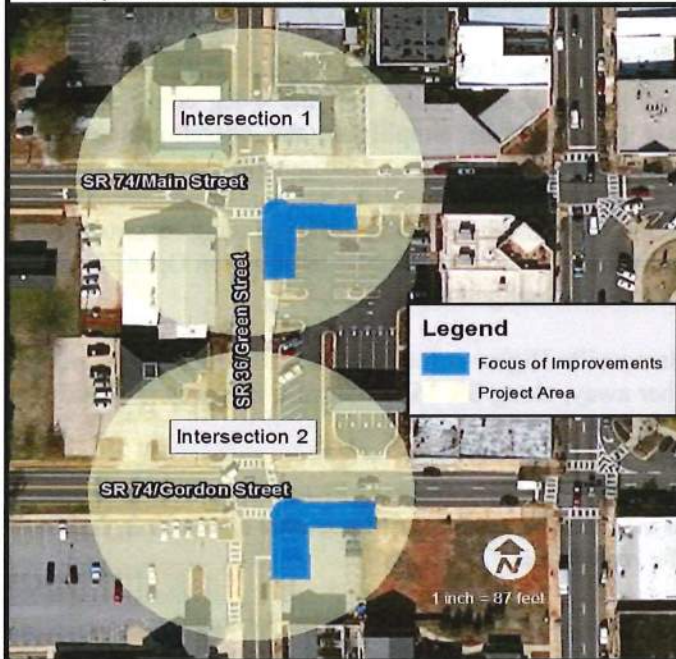
HP/ppa

cc: Achor Njoku, GDOT Project Manager (via email)  
PDF for Project File; Hardcopy to General Files

# Improvements to Four Intersections along SR 74 in Downtown Thomaston

GDOT Project CSSTP-0006-00(967), PI No. 0006967, Upson County

## Improvements to Intersection 1 and Intersection 2



## Proposed Intersection Improvements in Thomaston

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is in the concept development stage of a proposed project (PI No. 0006967) that would improve four intersections on State Route (SR) 74 in downtown Thomaston, Georgia.

To introduce the project to the community and gather public input, the GDOT is holding a Public Information Open House (PIOH) on March 26, 2015 in Auditorium A at the GDOT District 3 Office located at 115 Transportation Boulevard, Thomaston, Georgia from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

The meeting will be an open house format; there will be no formal presentation. If you cannot attend the meeting, project displays, meeting handouts, and the opportunity to comment will be located on GDOT's website ([www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov)). Displays will also be available at the District 3 Office after the meeting. To navigate to the project, click [Public Outreach](#) located under Quick Links; then from the menu, select [Upson County](#) and click [Go](#), then click [SR 74 Intersection Improvements](#). Questions and comments may also be directed to the GDOT project manager, Sue Anne Decker, at 706-646-7559 or [sdecker@dot.ga.gov](mailto:sdecker@dot.ga.gov) or Paul Alimia at 404-631-1353 or [palimia@dot.ga.gov](mailto:palimia@dot.ga.gov).

Please attend our Public Information Open House on March 26, 2015 at 115 Transportation Boulevard, Thomaston, GA from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

## What will the project look like?

Several alternatives were considered to expedite traffic passing through downtown Thomaston. The four intersections identified for improvements are:

- SR 36/North Green and SR 74/East Main Street (Intersection 1);
- SR 74/West Gordon Street and SR 36/North Green Street (Intersection 2);
- SR 74/East Gordon Street and SR 36/South Bethel Street (Intersection 3); and
- North/South Bethel Street, SR 74/East Main Street, and SR 36/Barnesville Highway (Intersection 4).

The project would increase the turning area for trucks making left turns at intersections 1, 2 and 3. At Intersection 4, a roundabout is proposed.

Overall, the project would improve safety and traffic congestion, and allow a more fluid turning movement for trucks in downtown Thomaston.

## Improvements to Intersection 3 and Intersection 4





# Memo

**To:** Project File

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**From:** Audrey Van **Email:** audrey.van@atkinsglobal.com

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**Phone:** 678-247-2473 **Date:** March 16, 2015

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**Ref:** PI No. 0006967, Upson County **cc:** Sue Anne Decker, GDOT PM  
Paul Alimia, NEPA PM

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**Subject:** PIOH Flyer distribution in Thomaston, Georgia

On March 10, 2015, Atkins' Environmental Planners Audrey Van and Amanda von Oldenburg visited Thomaston, Georgia to distribute flyers regarding the proposed project to improve four intersections in downtown Thomaston, and inform the public about the upcoming Public Information Open House (PIOH). Several locations were identified as places where the local community frequents in an effort to have the information reach a large number of individuals (see Communication Records of 2/18/15 and 3/4/15).

Ms. Kay King, Community Development Director for the City of Thomaston, had previously communicated with Ms. Van and Ms. von Oldenburg, and was very helpful in identifying important areas in the community and, in particular, places frequently visited by the low-income and/or minority communities. Atkins visited Ms. King at her office located at 106 E. Lee Street to provide flyers for distribution at her place of employment and to the community. Ms. King stated that she had intended to include the flyers with the utility statements for City of Thomaston customers once she received the appropriate approvals. She also stated she would distribute the flyers at Macedonia Baptist Church, Ms. King's local church. Atkins confirmed the locations to be visited that day which were previously discussed over the phone, and took the information for additional locations to visit during the meeting with Ms. King.

Before visiting Thomaston on this day, Atkins contacted the Thomaston-Upson County School District to inquire if flyers could be sent home with the students. Ms. Karen Truesdale, Director of School & Community Relations for the school district, approved the flyer for dissemination to the students. She gave the total number of students enrolled for each school and requested that the flyers be divided into packets of 25 for easier distribution to the classrooms. Atkins delivered 4,217 flyers divided into packets of 25 to the Thomaston-Upson County School Board of Education for the five schools in the district, and provided an additional 225 flyers for each schools' staff and faculty members.

In addition to the aforementioned locations, Atkins visited several government organizations, churches, and local businesses to inform the public of the proposed project and upcoming PIOH. Many of the locations accepted the flyer but their organization either did not allow postings or they would need to confirm with the owner if they could post.

Name	Address	Action
First Baptist Church of Upson	208 S. Church Street	May include in church bulletin, will need administration to review materials. Otherwise the secretary stated she would tell others about the event and proposed project.
Upson County Building & Zoning	106 E. Lee Street	Administrator stated he would provide information to Building & Zoning Department officials.
St. Michael's Episcopal Church	220 E. Lee Street	No one present at facilities.



# Memo

Upton Chamber of Commerce	110 W. Main Street	Administrator stated she would post the flyer in the office.
Providence Church	120 W. Thompson Street	No one present at facilities.
Church of Latter Day Saints	201 N. Church Street	Church has moved.
Post Office	103 E. Thompson Street	Accepted flyer. Employee stated she would post the flyer in the break room, as only government approved items can be on display in the post office.
Convenience Store	Barnesville Hwy. & Thompson Road	Accepted flyer. No further inquiry or statements about proposed project.
Rocky's Grocery	200 Barnesville Hwy.	Accepted flyer. Cashier stated she would tell people about the meeting. Had a positive response to the proposed project, stated it was needed.
Dollar General	217 E. Main Street	Accepted flyer. Cashier stated she would tell people about the meeting. Had a positive response to the proposed project.
Georgia High School Association	151 S. Bethel Street	Accepted flyer. Receptionist already had knowledge of the project and stated she would tell her colleagues about the meeting.
Pool Room Café	205 S. Center Street	Accepted flyer. Spoke to gentlemen outside of the café about the upcoming meeting and proposed project. Also visited inside the café where the cook stated she would post the flyer in the establishment.
Cook's Market	211 S. Center Street	Atkins posted the flyer in window at the request of the cashier.
Upton-Thomaston Civic Center	101 Civic Center Drive	Accepted flyer. Receptionist stated she would post the flyer in the center.
Gilmore Center	103 Civic Center Drive	Accepted flyer, administrator stated she would tell people about the meeting.
Triune Village/Thomaston Housing Authority	574 Triune Avenue	Accepted flyer. Receptionist stated should would include the information in the Triune

# Memo

		Village newsletter to their residents.
Barnesville Hwy. Valero	1030 Barnesville Hwy.	Accepted flyer
Handy Mart	204 E. Walker Street	Accepted flyer
Eric's Car Wash	502 N. Church Street	Accepted flyer. Spoke with four workers/residents at the facility to answer their questions about the project and upcoming meeting. Manager stated he would post the flyer.
Department of Family and Children's Services	711 N. Bethel Street	Accepted flyer. Administrator stated she would make copies and leave in lobby area
Colbert's Car Wash	707 N. Bethel Street	Accepted flyer. Attendant stated he would tell the manager about the meeting.
Mt. Sinai Seventh Day Adventists	332 N. Bethel Street	No one at the facilities.
Big Chic Restaurant	301 S. Church Street	Accepted flyer.
Upson County Health Department	314 E. Lee Street	Accepted flyer to leave in the employee break room.
New Life Baptist Church	306 N. Bethel Street	No one present at the facilities, flyer left under door mat.
Calvary Full Gospel Church	314 Barnesville Hwy.	Church appears vacant with no church signage.
Big Chic Restaurant	222 Barnesville Hwy.	Server accepted flyer and stated she would post in the window – took multiple flyers. Gentleman in line overheard conversation, inquired about the proposed project. Stated it was needed – spoke with him one-on-one about the project.
Grace Primitive Baptist Church	507 S. Center Street	No one present at the facilities, flyer left in door mail slot.
Thomaston Upson County Senior Center	302 South Bethel Street	Accepted flyer.



# Communication record

<b>Person spoken with:</b>	Various Individuals associated with City of Thomaston and Upson County		
<b>Representing:</b>	Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT)		
<b>Subject:</b>	Upcoming PIOH for Four intersections in Thomaston	<b>Date and time:</b>	February 18, 2015
<b>Atkins representative:</b>	Audrey Van	<b>Phone:</b>	678-247-2473

## Details:

On Wednesday, February 18, 2015, Atkins' representative Ms. Audrey Van spoke with several individuals regarding the upcoming March 26, 2015 Public Involvement Open House (PIOH) about the proposed project. The proposed project would improve four intersections in downtown Thomaston to help ease traffic congestion and improve safety. Atkins communicated with several individuals to inquire if their organization would receive flyers or permit flyers to be posted for the upcoming PIOH. Organizations that may be impacted by the proposed project were selected by identifying churches and government services in the area. Schools were contacted to be able to disperse information about the PIOH to a large number of individuals in the community. Described below is the outreach that occurred with the different organizations.

Both Upson Lee North Elementary School (706-647-3632) and Upson Lee South Elementary School (706-647-7516) were contacted, and messages were left for the principals, Mr. Seymour and Ms. McClain, respectively. Mr. Seymour responded to the message on February 20, 2015, and stated Ms. Karen Truesdale, the Upson County School Public Relations Representative, (706-646-9325) would need to be contacted before he could distribute any literature to the students.

Upson Lee Middle School (706-647-6256) was contacted and the administrator also stated to contact Ms. Karen Truesdale. A message was left for Ms. Truesdale informing her of our request to have project flyers distributed to the students to take home to their parents. Upson Lee High School (706-647-3632) was not contacted due to the administrator at the middle school stating that all correspondence to students would need to be approved by Ms. Truesdale.

The Upson County Senior Center (706-647-1607) was contacted to inquire if literature could be posted in their facility about the proposed project and upcoming PIOH. The administrator at the Senior Center stated that information could be posted on their bulletin board for community viewing. For the Upson County Civic Center, an inquiry was made about a bulletin board for posting information about the PIOH. An administrator stated there was a bulletin board in the Civic Center for posting community information where PIOH material could be displayed.

The Upson County Recreation Department (706-647-9691) was called for information on Weaver Park, located near the proposed project. The administrator directed Atkins to the Thomaston Parks Department (706-647-4242) for inquiries regarding Weaver Park. The Thomaston Parks Department was called and Atkins was directed to contact Mr. Randy Teal (706-741-1021) of the Thomaston Parks Department. Mr. Teal was contacted and Atkins inquired if there was a bulletin board at Weaver Park. He stated that there was no bulletin board at Weaver Park to his knowledge; however, he requested that information about the project be sent to him at [rteal@cityofthomaston.com](mailto:rteal@cityofthomaston.com).

<b>Action required:</b>	none		
<b>Distribute to:</b>	file	<b>cc:</b>	Wendy Dyson
<b>File ref:</b>	Thomaston Intersection Improvements		

Atkins communicated with several churches in the area to inform them of the proposed project and determine if flyers could be delivered to parishioners or if PIOH information could be included in the church bulletin. The First Baptist Church of Upson (706-647-7889) was contacted and the administrator stated that a flyer should be delivered to their office and the administrators would determine if either the information could be included in the church bulletin or sent to the parishioners. New Life Church (706-647-4787) was contacted and a message was left. Calvary Full Gospel Church (706-646-4800) and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (706-647-2889) were contacted via numbers found through Google searches, however both numbers were disconnected. St. Michael's Church (706-647-4032) was called on February 18 and February 23, 2015, however no answering machine was available to leave a message. Providence Church (706-647-2652) was also contacted and a message was left on February 23, 2015, but no return phone call was received.

Also on this day, the African American Museum Cedar Row (706-647-1607) was contacted. Atkins was transferred to Ms. Kay King (706-646-4878) who helps oversee the museum and is the Director of Community Development for Thomaston. The Community Development Office is responsible for improving substandard housing and maintains 43 rental units for the City of Thomaston. Atkins explained the need and purpose for the public outreach, and discussed the proposed project and upcoming PIOH with Ms. King, with emphasis that outreach to minority communities was encouraged. She stated that the Cedar Row Museum would be a poor location for reaching out to the community due to its limited hours. Ms. King suggested several locations to reach out to minority and low-income communities in the area. Those locations included:

- Handy Mart at Hightower Street and E. Walker Street,
- Valero Service Station at 1030 Barnesville Hwy,
- Colbert's Car Wash at 707 N. Bethel Street,
- Eric's Car Wash at 502 North Church Street,
- Thomaston Housing Authority at 574 Triune Avenue,
- Upson County Health Department at 314 E. Lee Street, Upson County Offices at 116 W. Main Street, and
- Family & Children Services 711 N. Bethel Street

Ms. King also identified an additional church, the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church at E. Walker and Bethel Street (706-648-1199). Atkins attempted to communicate with administrators at the church, however the phone number provided for the church was disconnected.



# Communication record

<b>Person spoken with:</b>	Ms. Karen Truesdale of Upson County Board of Education, Ms. Kay King and Mr. Randy Teal of City of Thomaston		
<b>Representing:</b>	Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT)		
<b>Subject:</b>	Upcoming PIOH for four intersections in Thomaston	<b>Date and time:</b>	March 4, 2015
<b>Atkins representative:</b>	Amanda von Oldenburg	<b>Phone:</b>	678-247-2472

## Details:

On Wednesday, March 4, 2015, Atkins contacted the Upson County Board of Education and asked to communicate with the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent. Atkins had previously contacted Ms. Karen Truesdale, Upson County School Public Relations Representative, and had not received a response. The administrator at Upson County Board of Education forwarded the phone call to the secretary of the Superintendent, Ms. Maggie Shook. The secretary stated the Superintendent was not in the office at the time of the call. Atkins' Ms. von Oldenburg made introductions and explained the nature of the call and inquired if there was someone else to communicate with in an effort to disseminate fliers for the upcoming public information open house (PIOH). The secretary expressed interest in the meeting and asked for information so that she could attend. She also provided a name for the city manager and asked if Atkins had communicated with him. Atkins' Ms. von Oldenburg explained that as part of the Early Coordination process, city and county officials are informed about the proposed project, and GDOT does their best to not have a PIOH meeting without the local officials' knowledge. The secretary stated she would relay the information to the Superintendent and call back. Atkins' Ms. von Oldenburg communicated with Atkins' Ms. Van and confirmed that city and county officials were communicated with prior to planning the PIOH.

Within approximately five minutes, Atkins received a phone call from Ms. Karen Truesdale, Upson County School Public Relations Representative, stating we were granted permission to disseminate the meeting information through the schools and that the fliers could be delivered to the Board of Education office where Ms. Truesdale would provide the fliers to the five schools. Ms. Truesdale stated there are five schools within the county: Upson Lee Pre-K with approximately 132 students, Upson Lee K through 3<sup>rd</sup> with approximately 1,230 students, Upson Lee 4-5<sup>th</sup> with approximately 568 students, Upson Lee Middle School with approximately 1,000 students, and Upson Lee High School with approximately 1,287 students. She asked that the fliers be divided into bundles of 25 fliers. Atkins explained that the fliers would be delivered the following Tuesday, March 10, 2015.

Atkins also contacted Ms. Kay King, Director of Community Development for City of Thomaston. Ms. King did not answer, however Atkins left a voicemail inquiring about the location of the Community Development offices so that fliers could be delivered to Ms. King and if she would be available to speak on March 10, 2015 regarding further outreach opportunities. Ms. King returned the call and stated she would be available on March 10, 2015 and gave directions to her office.

Mr. Randy Teal of the Thomaston County Parks Department has also requested a flier be sent to him for his knowledge. A flier was sent on March 4, 2015 to [rteal@cityofthomaston.com](mailto:rteal@cityofthomaston.com).

<b>Action required:</b>	none		
<b>Distribute to:</b>	file	<b>cc:</b>	Wendy Dyson
<b>File ref:</b>	Thomaston Intersection Improvements		

# NOTICE OF LOCATION AND DESIGN APPROVAL

**P. I. 0006967**

**Upson**

Notice is hereby given in compliance with Georgia Code 22-2-109 and 32-3-5 that the Georgia Department of Transportation has approved the Location and Design of this project.

The date of location and design approval is: Nov. 18, 2019

The project is located in Land District 10, Land Lot 217, and G.M.D. 561 in downtown Thomaston, Upson County Georgia on the one-way pair of SR 74 and SR 36. State Route 74 is a major east-west corridor that runs through the heart of downtown Thomaston, Georgia and is functionally classified as an urban principal arterial. State Route 36 briefly shares the same one-way pair of alignments with SR 74 as it runs through downtown and is classified as an urban principal arterial. The project corridor has a large volume of trucks and has operational and crash incident issues at four intersections: SR36/SR 74 at Green Street (2 intersections) and SR 36 /SR 74 at Bethel Street (2 intersections).

This proposed project will improve the operations of the four intersections along the SR 74/SR 36 one-way pair by realigning the intersections and improving geometry. The proposed roundabout would: maintain and promote better connectivity, minimize property impacts, reduce crash frequency and severity by reducing conflict points, reduce the speed at which impacts may occur, improve sight distance through an improved geometric design, and better accommodate pedestrians by creating highly visible ADA compliant crosswalks where appropriate sight distance is achieved. State route traffic will not be detoured. Local streets may be detoured if needed. The estimated construction time is 12 months.

Drawings or maps or plats of the proposed project, as approved, are on file and are available for public inspection at the Georgia Department of Transportation:

Kraig Collins, Area Engineer  
D3, A1  
krcollins@dot.ga.gov  
115 Transportation Blvd.  
Thomaston, GA 30286  
706-646-7631

Any interested party may obtain a copy of the drawings or maps or plats or portions thereof by paying a nominal fee and requesting in writing to:

Kimberly Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator  
Program Delivery  
Attn: Shanda Caldwell  
scaldwell@dot.ga.gov  
600 West Peachtree Street, 25<sup>th</sup> floor  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
470-591-5484

Any written request or communication in reference to this project or notice SHOULD include the Project and P. I. Numbers as noted at the top of this notice.